

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-NINTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2004

767J0465

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE ENGROSSED NO. **SB 67** - 01/27/2004

Introduced by: Senators Olson (Ed), Ham-Burr, Knudson, and Symens and Representative Heineman

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to require school districts to offer kindergarten and to
2 require content standards for kindergarten.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That § 13-26-2 be amended to read as follows:

5 13-26-2. The school board or governing body shall operate ~~grades one~~ kindergarten through
6 grade twelve in its schools ~~for at least a nine-month regular term in any one school year. The~~
7 school board shall operate grades one through twelve for at least a nine-month regular term in
8 any one school year, and the number of hours in a school term for kindergarten shall be set
9 pursuant to § 13-26-1. The regular school term may be conducted on a year-round basis and
10 shall begin on a date established by the school board. The Board of Education shall promulgate
11 rules pursuant to chapter 1-26 governing the operation and scheduling of year-round schools.
12 Any school board or governing body may release graduating high school seniors from school
13 before the end of the regular term if the release is for no more than three school days. Make up
14 time for school closing because of weather, disease, or emergency need not exceed ten school
15 days. Graduating seniors are excused from make up time if the make up time occurs after the



1 students have graduated or after graduation exercises have been held. If classes have been
2 convened and then are dismissed, or if classes convene at a time later in the day than normal,
3 because of inclement weather, that day constitutes a school day in session equal to the number
4 of hours planned for that day as established in the local school district calendar for the year.

5 School boards are encouraged to provide time within the regular school term for curriculum
6 and staff development which shall be in addition to the time required in this section. Each
7 school board shall determine the appropriate amount of time for this activity and how best to
8 use the time based on local needs for program development, increased parent participation,
9 student contact, teachers' preparation, or other needs of the schools in the district. School shall
10 be in session only when classes are held and as provided in §§ 13-26-4 and 13-26-4.1. A school
11 board may operate a special term during the summer months.

12 Section 2. That § 13-15-14 be amended to read as follows:

13 13-15-14. School districts entering into contractual agreements specified in § 13-15-11 or
14 13-15-1.3 are considered to be operating a school whether or not the school is located within
15 the boundary of the district. In any event, each school district, except those which have entered
16 into an approved contract under the provisions of § 13-15-11, shall operate at least an
17 instructional program for ~~grades one~~ kindergarten through grade six within the boundaries of
18 the district.

19 Section 3. That § 13-3-48 be amended to read as follows:

20 13-3-48. The secretary of the Department of Education shall prepare and submit for approval
21 of the South Dakota Board of Education academic content standards in language arts,
22 mathematics, social studies, and science for ~~grades one~~ kindergarten through grade twelve. Each
23 school district shall adopt and implement clearly defined and measurable course guidelines so
24 as to meet the state academic content standards. ~~Course guidelines for language arts and~~

- 1 ~~mathematics shall be adopted and implemented by July 1, 1999, and those for social studies and~~
- 2 ~~science shall be adopted by July 1, 2000.~~